



Date: September 24, 2020

To: Legislative Advisory Commission Members

Senator Paul Gazelka
Senate Majority Leader

Senator Julie Rosen, Chair
Finance Committee

Senator Michelle Benson, Chair
Health and Human Services Finance and Policy
Committee

Senator Warren Limmer, Chair
Judiciary and Public Safety Finance and Policy
Committee

Senator Carla Nelson, Chair
E-12 Finance and Policy Committee


Representative Melissa Hortman
Speaker of the House

Representative Lyndon Carlson, Sr., Chair
Ways and Means Committee

Representative Tina Liebling, Chair
Health and Human Services Finance Division

Representative John Lesch, Chair
Judiciary Finance and Civil Law Division

Representative Jim Davnie, Chair
Education Finance Division

From: Jim Schowalter, Secretary Legislative Advisory Commission 

Subject: URGENT REVIEW | #65-70 Coronavirus Relief Fund Request to Legislative Advisory Commission

This is a request to spend federal dollars received through the CARES Act as part of the Coronavirus Relief Fund for necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). These requests are submitted under M.S. 3.3005 subd. 4 and 5, which allows for a 10-day review.

Attached are the details of the federal fund review requests. Details about these requests were shared in a briefing for the Legislative COVID-19 Response Commission members and the chairs of the relevant House and Senate Finance Committees on September 23, 2020.

Federal Fund Review Requests	FY 2021
65. Supports for Behavioral Health and School Linked Mental Health Providers (Human Services)	\$3,000,000
66. Civil Legal Aid’s Emergency Response to Serve Minnesotans During COVID-19 (Minnesota Judicial Branch)	\$3,500,000
67. Senior Judge CRF Request (Minnesota Judicial Branch)	\$2,112,516
68. Grocery Store Point of Sale Expansion (Human Services)	\$1,329,500
69. Incentive Grants for Turning Schools into Community Feeding Hubs (Education)	\$5,000,000

Federal Fund Review Requests	FY 2021
70. Food Shelf and Transportation Support (Human Services)	\$6,000,000
TOTAL	\$20,942,016

PROCEDURE FOR LAC REVIEW:

The six LAC members have until Monday, October 5, 2020, to provide a recommendation. To expedite the LAC review process, LAC members may respond to this review request directly, recommending their approval or request for further review, instead of waiting the 10-day period.

CC: Bill Marx, House Chief Fiscal Analyst
Eric Nauman, Senate Lead Fiscal Analyst
Nancy Conley, House Ways and Means Committee Administrator
Jessica Young, Senate Finance Committee Administrator

Coronavirus Relief / Health Care Response / COVID-19 Minnesota Funds Request Form

Please complete this form in accordance with the process instructions.

Agency/Point of Contact: Neerja Singh (Human Services) and Erin Bailey (MMB Children's Cabinet)

Title of Request: Supports for Behavioral Health and School Linked Mental Health Providers

Date: 9/21/2020 **Request Amount:** \$ 3,000,000

Expenditure Time Period: 9/21/2020 to 12/30/2020

Request Funding Source:

- Coronavirus Relief Fund (if selected complete page 2)
- Health Care Response Fund
- COVID-19 Minnesota Fund

Brief Summary of Request: (Summary must be complete on this page with supporting information attached)

The Department of Human Services requests \$3 million to support behavioral health services providers, including School Linked Mental Health Providers, to continue serving children and families and who require additional resources due to COVID-19. The funds will be used to support increased costs and business interruptions associated with the pandemic and emergency response and will prioritize families of color and indigenous families as well as low-income families.

Increasing mental health and emotional distress needs was a serious need and priority for children and families prior to COVID-19 (36% of students reporting emotional distress according to 2019 MN Student Survey). COVID-19 has placed new strains on families as a result of isolation, distance learning, and stress as a result of fears around the pandemic and economy. It has had a direct psychosocial impact on children and youth with distance learning, lack of activity and outlets, and the effects of household stress, among others. Behavioral health providers and other stakeholders have expressed the need for urgent financial resources to meet mental health needs in the community, mitigating losses (up to \$55,000/month) to ensure services continue to be available and prevent imminent closures. These providers have not received specific federal or state funding related to COVID-19 to date, and have reportedly struggled to secure other financial supports.

All School Linked Mental Health providers and behavioral service providers serving children and families with needs related to the COVID-19 pandemic (as listed above) are eligible to apply for funds up to \$25,000 (in each grant round). These dollars will be used to meet needs associated with providing in-person services to children/youth and families during COVID-19 such as increased staff costs, critical care supplies (including face coverings), cleaning and sanitation, loss mitigation due to business interruptions (smaller group sizes and larger rooms for social distancing, appointment spacing, etc.), training costs associated with maintaining public health; and resources to serve children/youth and families remotely.

Competitive mini-grant state applications will be used to distribute the funds (up to 3 rounds) and released as soon as possible. Review teams will follow the Department of Human Services requirements for grant applications.

The expected impact from the proposal and funds available will help continue and enhance behavioral health service delivery for children and families. Results will include improved safety measures for families, and sustained programing. All applications will be reviewed per need of the applicant and special attention will be given in the review to populations with the largest disparities in these areas. This request originated in Behavioral Health Division and the Children's Cabinet was involved in the request. DHS has also applied for SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration) grants and are awaiting a response.

Jodi Harpstead Digitally signed by Jodi Harpstead
Date: 2020.09.23 13:59:10 -05'00'
Department Head Signature

9/23/2020
Date

Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) Categories

Medical Expenses	<input type="checkbox"/> Costs incurred by public hospitals, clinics, and similar facilities
	<input type="checkbox"/> Establishing temporary public medical facilities and other measures to increase treatment capacity, including related construction costs
	<input type="checkbox"/> Testing, including serological testing
	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency medical response expenses, including emergency medical transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> Establishing and operating public telemedicine capabilities for COVID-19 related treatment
Public Health Expenses	<input type="checkbox"/> Communication and enforcement of public health orders related to COVID-19.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acquisition and distribution of medical and protective supplies, including sanitizing products and personal protective equipment, for medical personnel, police officers, social workers, child protection services, and child welfare officers, direct service providers for older adults and individuals with disabilities in community settings, and other public health or safety workers
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disinfection of public areas and other facilities, e.g., nursing homes, in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency
	<input type="checkbox"/> Technical assistance to local authorities or other entities on mitigation of COVID-19-related threats to public health and safety
	<input type="checkbox"/> Public safety measures undertaken in response to COVID-19
	<input type="checkbox"/> Expenses for quarantining individuals
	<input type="checkbox"/> Contact tracing
Payroll Expenses	<input type="checkbox"/> Recovery planning projects or operating a recovery coordination office
	<input type="checkbox"/> Payroll expenses for public safety, public health, health care, human services, and similar employees whose services are substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
Compliance with Public Health Measures	<input type="checkbox"/> Food delivery to residents, including, for example, senior citizens and other vulnerable populations, to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Facilitate distance learning, including technological improvements, in connection with school closings to enable compliance with COVID-19 precautions.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Improve telework capabilities for public employees to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions
	<input type="checkbox"/> Providing paid sick and paid family and medical leave to public employees to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions
	<input type="checkbox"/> Maintaining state prisons and county jails, including sanitation and the improvement of social distancing measures, to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions
	<input type="checkbox"/> Care for homeless populations provided to mitigate COVID-19 effects and enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions
Economic Support	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provision of grants to small businesses to reimburse the costs of business interruption caused by required closures
	<input type="checkbox"/> Expenditures related to a state, territorial, local, or tribal government payroll support program.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Unemployment insurance costs related to the COVID-19 public health emergency if such costs will not be reimbursed by the federal government pursuant to the CARES Act or otherwise
	<input type="checkbox"/> Facilitation of livestock depopulation incurred by producers due to supply chain disruption
	<input type="checkbox"/> Programs designed to prevent eviction and assist in preventing homelessness due to COVID-19 public health emergency
	<input type="checkbox"/> Employment and training programs for employees that have been furloughed due to the COVID-19 public health emergency
	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency financial assistance to individuals or families directly impacted by loss of income
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other COVID-19-related expenses reasonably necessary to the function of government that satisfy the Fund's eligibility criteria. If this category is selected, please explain further here: Mitigate risk of interruption in services to children and families during COVID-19 by supporting providers to use the funds to cover staffing and other costs associated with providing behavioral health services.

CRF Fund Request Confirmations

- **Confirm that your CRF funding request meets federal guidance: (1) as a necessary expenditure to respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency, (2) is not accounted in the current biennial budget and (3) funds will be expended by December 30, 2020.**
- **Confirm that your CRF funding request does NOT include expenses that cover:**
 - The state's share of Medicaid costs
 - Damages covered by insurance
 - Payroll or benefits of employees whose work duties are not substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to COVID-19
 - Costs reimbursed under other federal programs or funding sources
 - Reimbursement to donors for donated items or services
 - Workforce bonuses other than hazard pay or overtime
 - Severance pay
 - Government revenue replacement, including provision of assistance to individuals or businesses to meet tax obligations
- **Confirm that your agency will maintain records related to these expenses that will be sufficient to demonstrate that they are in accordance with the requirements of the CARES Act.**
- **Confirm that your agency has the approval of the lead of the selected work group to submit this proposal.**

Coronavirus Relief / Health Care Response / COVID-19 Minnesota Funds Request Form

Please complete this form in accordance with the process instructions.

Agency/Point of Contact: Minnesota Judicial Branch

Title of Request: Civil Legal Aid’s Emergency Response to Serve Minnesotans During COVID-19

Date: 9/21/2020 **Request Amount:** \$ 3,500,000

Expenditure Time Period: 9/21/2020 to 12/30/2020

Request Funding Source:

- Coronavirus Relief Fund (if selected complete page 2)
- Health Care Response Fund
- COVID-19 Minnesota Fund

Brief Summary of Request: (Summary must be complete on this page with supporting information attached)

The Minnesota Legal Services Coalition (“the Coalition”) requests \$3.5 million in funding to support the Minnesota civil legal aid network's emergency response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) pandemic, public health emergency, and economic disaster.

As the COVID-19 pandemic has created a public health emergency and economic crisis in Minnesota, the Coalition's expertise in legal advocacy for people in poverty is critical to a meaningful statewide response to protect Minnesotans' basic civil and human rights in the face of an unprecedented emergency and disaster. Presently, there is rising demand for civil legal aid all over Minnesota as a direct result of the public health and economic effects of the COVID-19 emergency and disaster.

Accordingly, the Coalition requests supplemental funding in the amount of \$3.5 million to enable greater capacity for the Coalition to respond on a statewide basis to the COVID-19 emergency and disaster.

The requested emergency response funding will be distributed under Minn. Stat. § 480.242, through the Legal Services Advisory Committee (LSAC). Current LSAC grantees would receive supplemental COVID-19 response funding out of the \$3.5 million in proportion to their current grants for the FY20-21 for direct legal services and outreach to thousands of Minnesotan households in need of critical legal help due to the COVID-19 pandemic; development of a statewide network of community-based civil justice kiosks and mobile civil legal aid clinics, allowing Minnesotans in both rural and urban communities to mitigate barriers they face to consult safely with civil legal aid experts; expansion of critical technology infrastructure to meet civil legal needs in communities across Minnesota; and emergency staffing, including temporary staff and contract attorneys, to provide the emergency legal services that are and will be necessary to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Shorba, Jeff

Department Head Signature

Digitally signed by Shorba, Jeff
Date: 2020.09.21 11:31:30 -05'00'

9/21/2020

Date

Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) Categories

Medical Expenses	<input type="checkbox"/> Costs incurred by public hospitals, clinics, and similar facilities
	<input type="checkbox"/> Establishing temporary public medical facilities and other measures to increase treatment capacity, including related construction costs
	<input type="checkbox"/> Testing, including serological testing
	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency medical response expenses, including emergency medical transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> Establishing and operating public telemedicine capabilities for COVID-19 related treatment
Public Health Expenses	<input type="checkbox"/> Communication and enforcement of public health orders related to COVID-19.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition and distribution of medical and protective supplies, including sanitizing products and personal protective equipment, for medical personnel, police officers, social workers, child protection services, and child welfare officers, direct service providers for older adults and individuals with disabilities in community settings, and other public health or safety workers
	<input type="checkbox"/> Disinfection of public areas and other facilities, e.g., nursing homes, in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency
	<input type="checkbox"/> Technical assistance to local authorities or other entities on mitigation of COVID-19-related threats to public health and safety
	<input type="checkbox"/> Public safety measures undertaken in response to COVID-19
	<input type="checkbox"/> Expenses for quarantining individuals
	<input type="checkbox"/> Contact tracing
	<input type="checkbox"/> Recovery planning projects or operating a recovery coordination office
Payroll Expenses	<input type="checkbox"/> Payroll expenses for public safety, public health, health care, human services, and similar employees whose services are substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
Compliance with Public Health Measures	<input type="checkbox"/> Food delivery to residents, including, for example, senior citizens and other vulnerable populations, to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Facilitate distance learning, including technological improvements, in connection with school closings to enable compliance with COVID-19 precautions.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Improve telework capabilities for public employees to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions
	<input type="checkbox"/> Providing paid sick and paid family and medical leave to public employees to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions
	<input type="checkbox"/> Maintaining state prisons and county jails, including sanitation and the improvement of social distancing measures, to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions
	<input type="checkbox"/> Care for homeless populations provided to mitigate COVID-19 effects and enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions
Economic Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Provision of grants to small businesses to reimburse the costs of business interruption caused by required closures
	<input type="checkbox"/> Expenditures related to a state, territorial, local, or tribal government payroll support program.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Unemployment insurance costs related to the COVID-19 public health emergency if such costs will not be reimbursed by the federal government pursuant to the CARES Act or otherwise
	<input type="checkbox"/> Facilitation of livestock depopulation incurred by producers due to supply chain disruption
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Programs designed to prevent eviction and assist in preventing homelessness due to COVID-19 public health emergency
	<input type="checkbox"/> Employment and training programs for employees that have been furloughed due to the COVID-19 public health emergency
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emergency financial assistance to individuals or families directly impacted by loss of income
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other COVID-19-related expenses reasonably necessary to the function of government that satisfy the Fund's eligibility criteria. If this category is selected, please explain further here: Provides resources to help ensure the efficient and equitable administration of justice in the civil law system.

CRF Fund Request Confirmations

- **Confirm that your CRF funding request meets federal guidance: (1) as a necessary expenditure to respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency, (2) is not accounted in the current biennial budget and (3) funds will be expended by December 30, 2020.**
- **Confirm that your CRF funding request does NOT include expenses that cover:**
 - The state's share of Medicaid costs
 - Damages covered by insurance
 - Payroll or benefits of employees whose work duties are not substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to COVID-19
 - Costs reimbursed under other federal programs or funding sources
 - Reimbursement to donors for donated items or services
 - Workforce bonuses other than hazard pay or overtime
 - Severance pay
 - Government revenue replacement, including provision of assistance to individuals or businesses to meet tax obligations
- **Confirm that your agency will maintain records related to these expenses that will be sufficient to demonstrate that they are in accordance with the requirements of the CARES Act.**
- **Confirm that your agency has the approval of the lead of the selected work group to submit this proposal.**

Coronavirus Relief / Health Care Response / COVID-19 Minnesota Funds Request Form

Please complete this form in accordance with the process instructions.

Agency/Point of Contact: Dan Ostdiek, Finance Director, 651-297-7164 dan.ostdiek@courts.state.mn.us

Title of Request: MN Judicial Branch Senior Judge CRF Request

Date: 9/21/2020 **Request Amount:** \$ 2,112,516

Expenditure Time Period: 8/24/2020 to 12/30/2020

Request Funding Source:

- Coronavirus Relief Fund (if selected complete page 2)
- Health Care Response Fund
- COVID-19 Minnesota Fund

Brief Summary of Request: (Summary must be complete on this page with supporting information attached)

The Minnesota Judicial Branch is seeking funds to help ensure equal access for the fair and timely resolution of cases and controversies during the COVID-19 pandemic, and to protect the health and safety of court participants and the public.

The Minnesota Judicial Branch currently has a backlog of approximately 41,397 hours of additional judge hours of work, due to the pandemic. The Judicial Branch is proposing to address 11,723 judge backlog hours by having senior judges handle specific cases as identified. The Branch is estimating that if we can provide equipment for 30 Senior Judges we could clear the backlog and assist in resolving cases.

This funding request meets federal guidance of the CARES Act and only covers necessary and allowable expenditures in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency, are not accounted for in the current biennial budget, and will be expended before December 30, 2020. The Judicial Branch will maintain records related to these expenses that will be sufficient to demonstrate that they are in accordance with the requirements of the CARES Act. The Judicial Branch COVID-19 leadership group has approved submitting this proposal.

Shorba, Jeff

Department Head Signature

Digitally signed by Shorba, Jeff
Date: 2020.09.21 11:32:00 -05'00'

9/21/2020

Date

Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) Categories

Medical Expenses	<input type="checkbox"/> Costs incurred by public hospitals, clinics, and similar facilities
	<input type="checkbox"/> Establishing temporary public medical facilities and other measures to increase treatment capacity, including related construction costs
	<input type="checkbox"/> Testing, including serological testing
	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency medical response expenses, including emergency medical transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> Establishing and operating public telemedicine capabilities for COVID-19 related treatment
Public Health Expenses	<input type="checkbox"/> Communication and enforcement of public health orders related to COVID-19.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition and distribution of medical and protective supplies, including sanitizing products and personal protective equipment, for medical personnel, police officers, social workers, child protection services, and child welfare officers, direct service providers for older adults and individuals with disabilities in community settings, and other public health or safety workers
	<input type="checkbox"/> Disinfection of public areas and other facilities, e.g., nursing homes, in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency
	<input type="checkbox"/> Technical assistance to local authorities or other entities on mitigation of COVID-19-related threats to public health and safety
	<input type="checkbox"/> Public safety measures undertaken in response to COVID-19
	<input type="checkbox"/> Expenses for quarantining individuals
	<input type="checkbox"/> Contact tracing
Payroll Expenses	<input type="checkbox"/> Recovery planning projects or operating a recovery coordination office
	<input type="checkbox"/> Payroll expenses for public safety, public health, health care, human services, and similar employees whose services are substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
Compliance with Public Health Measures	<input type="checkbox"/> Food delivery to residents, including, for example, senior citizens and other vulnerable populations, to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Facilitate distance learning, including technological improvements, in connection with school closings to enable compliance with COVID-19 precautions.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improve telework capabilities for public employees to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions
	<input type="checkbox"/> Providing paid sick and paid family and medical leave to public employees to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions
	<input type="checkbox"/> Maintaining state prisons and county jails, including sanitation and the improvement of social distancing measures, to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions
	<input type="checkbox"/> Care for homeless populations provided to mitigate COVID-19 effects and enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions
Economic Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Provision of grants to small businesses to reimburse the costs of business interruption caused by required closures
	<input type="checkbox"/> Expenditures related to a state, territorial, local, or tribal government payroll support program.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Unemployment insurance costs related to the COVID-19 public health emergency if such costs will not be reimbursed by the federal government pursuant to the CARES Act or otherwise
	<input type="checkbox"/> Facilitation of livestock depopulation incurred by producers due to supply chain disruption
	<input type="checkbox"/> Programs designed to prevent eviction and assist in preventing homelessness due to COVID-19 public health emergency
	<input type="checkbox"/> Employment and training programs for employees that have been furloughed due to the COVID-19 public health emergency
	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency financial assistance to individuals or families directly impacted by loss of income
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other COVID-19-related expenses reasonably necessary to the function of government that satisfy the Fund's eligibility criteria. If this category is selected, please explain further here: Payroll Expenses for additional Judicial Branch staff to assist with case backlog due to the pandemic.

CRF Fund Request Confirmations

- **Confirm that your CRF funding request meets federal guidance: (1) as a necessary expenditure to respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency, (2) is not accounted in the current biennial budget and (3) funds will be expended by December 30, 2020.**
- **Confirm that your CRF funding request does NOT include expenses that cover:**
 - The state's share of Medicaid costs
 - Damages covered by insurance
 - Payroll or benefits of employees whose work duties are not substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to COVID-19
 - Costs reimbursed under other federal programs or funding sources
 - Reimbursement to donors for donated items or services
 - Workforce bonuses other than hazard pay or overtime
 - Severance pay
 - Government revenue replacement, including provision of assistance to individuals or businesses to meet tax obligations
- **Confirm that your agency will maintain records related to these expenses that will be sufficient to demonstrate that they are in accordance with the requirements of the CARES Act.**
- **Confirm that your agency has the approval of the lead of the selected work group to submit this proposal.**

Coronavirus Relief / Health Care Response / COVID-19 Minnesota Funds Request Form

Please complete this form in accordance with the process instructions.

Agency/Point of Contact: DHS/Tikki Brown

Title of Request: Grocery Store Point of Sale Expansion

Date: 9/17/2020 **Request Amount:** \$ 1,329,500

Expenditure Time Period: 7/1/2020 to 12/30/2020

Request Funding Source:

- Coronavirus Relief Fund (if selected complete page 2)
- Health Care Response Fund
- COVID-19 Minnesota Fund

Brief Summary of Request: (Summary must be complete on this page with supporting information attached)

This proposal requests to provide reimbursement funds of up to \$500 per eligible grocery store, to help cover wireless/mobile Point Of Sale (POS) terminals to enable additional, socially distance access points for EBT card users. Wireless/mobile POS machines allow outside drive up options for grocery stores, or even the ability to deliver groceries. EBT usage has increased during the pandemic, with higher number of Minnesotan's participating in SNAP and through the usage of Pandemic EBT. Benefits provided to EBT cards are valid for one year before expiration.

While the Department has enabled online purchasing, which is the ability of grocery stores to accept EBT cards for online delivery, grocery stores must first work to achieve approval with USDA. This process is difficult for small and grocery stores with limited capacity. Minnesota has two online retailers, Amazon and Walmart.

Wireless/mobile POS costs vary depending upon each stores sale system, cost of machines vary from \$349 -\$500 for mid-range and \$500-\$1,000 for high-range. Minnesota's EBT vendor FIS, maintains contracts with EBT vendors and counts 2,290 vendors who are certified by USDA to accept EBT cards. Total costs for reimbursement of \$500 to each of these vendors: \$1,145,000.

The Department proposes to contract with the Minnesota Grocers Association, for an up to 3% administrative fee of \$34,500 to provide the application, generate payment and collect reporting information from vendors. The Department, in partnership with the Grocers Association will develop an application, and develop a review process to ensure that statewide coverage occurs. Administrative costs for the department include the reassignment of staff to manage this program, promotion and outreach is \$150,000.

Total project cost: \$1,329,500

Jodi Harpstead
Digitally signed by Jodi Harpstead
Date: 2020.09.17 10:53:18 -05'00'
Department Head Signature

9/17/2020
Date

Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) Categories

Medical Expenses	<input type="checkbox"/> Costs incurred by public hospitals, clinics, and similar facilities
	<input type="checkbox"/> Establishing temporary public medical facilities and other measures to increase treatment capacity, including related construction costs
	<input type="checkbox"/> Testing, including serological testing
	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency medical response expenses, including emergency medical transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> Establishing and operating public telemedicine capabilities for COVID-19 related treatment
Public Health Expenses	<input type="checkbox"/> Communication and enforcement of public health orders related to COVID-19.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition and distribution of medical and protective supplies, including sanitizing products and personal protective equipment, for medical personnel, police officers, social workers, child protection services, and child welfare officers, direct service providers for older adults and individuals with disabilities in community settings, and other public health or safety workers
	<input type="checkbox"/> Disinfection of public areas and other facilities, e.g., nursing homes, in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency
	<input type="checkbox"/> Technical assistance to local authorities or other entities on mitigation of COVID-19-related threats to public health and safety
	<input type="checkbox"/> Public safety measures undertaken in response to COVID-19
	<input type="checkbox"/> Expenses for quarantining individuals
	<input type="checkbox"/> Contact tracing
Payroll Expenses	<input type="checkbox"/> Recovery planning projects or operating a recovery coordination office
	<input type="checkbox"/> Payroll expenses for public safety, public health, health care, human services, and similar employees whose services are substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
Compliance with Public Health Measures	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Food delivery to residents, including, for example, senior citizens and other vulnerable populations, to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Facilitate distance learning, including technological improvements, in connection with school closings to enable compliance with COVID-19 precautions.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Improve telework capabilities for public employees to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions
	<input type="checkbox"/> Providing paid sick and paid family and medical leave to public employees to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions
	<input type="checkbox"/> Maintaining state prisons and county jails, including sanitation and the improvement of social distancing measures, to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions
	<input type="checkbox"/> Care for homeless populations provided to mitigate COVID-19 effects and enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions
Economic Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Provision of grants to small businesses to reimburse the costs of business interruption caused by required closures
	<input type="checkbox"/> Expenditures related to a state, territorial, local, or tribal government payroll support program.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Unemployment insurance costs related to the COVID-19 public health emergency if such costs will not be reimbursed by the federal government pursuant to the CARES Act or otherwise
	<input type="checkbox"/> Facilitation of livestock depopulation incurred by producers due to supply chain disruption
	<input type="checkbox"/> Programs designed to prevent eviction and assist in preventing homelessness due to COVID-19 public health emergency
	<input type="checkbox"/> Employment and training programs for employees that have been furloughed due to the COVID-19 public health emergency
	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency financial assistance to individuals or families directly impacted by loss of income
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Other COVID-19-related expenses reasonably necessary to the function of government that satisfy the Fund's eligibility criteria. If this category is selected, please explain further here:

CRF Fund Request Confirmations

- **Confirm that your CRF funding request meets federal guidance: (1) as a necessary expenditure to respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency, (2) is not accounted in the current biennial budget and (3) funds will be expended by December 30, 2020.**
- **Confirm that your CRF funding request does NOT include expenses that cover:**
 - The state's share of Medicaid costs
 - Damages covered by insurance
 - Payroll or benefits of employees whose work duties are not substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to COVID-19
 - Costs reimbursed under other federal programs or funding sources
 - Reimbursement to donors for donated items or services
 - Workforce bonuses other than hazard pay or overtime
 - Severance pay
 - Government revenue replacement, including provision of assistance to individuals or businesses to meet tax obligations
- **Confirm that your agency will maintain records related to these expenses that will be sufficient to demonstrate that they are in accordance with the requirements of the CARES Act.**
- **Confirm that your agency has the approval of the lead of the selected work group to submit this proposal.**

Coronavirus Relief / Health Care Response / COVID-19 Minnesota Funds Request Form

Please complete this form in accordance with the process instructions.

Agency/Point of Contact: Minnesota Department of Education (MDE)/Monica L. Herrera

Title of Request: Incentive Grants for Turning Schools into Community Feeding Hubs

Date: 9/15/2020 **Request Amount:** \$ 5,000,000

Expenditure Time Period: 9/1/2020 to 12/30/2020

Request Funding Source:

- Coronavirus Relief Fund (if selected complete page 2)
- Health Care Response Fund
- COVID-19 Minnesota Fund

Brief Summary of Request: (Summary must be complete on this page with supporting information attached)

This request will provide resources for schools to expand their meal service program to include all members of their district or community, including children, youth, parents and extended family members, and adults without families, experiencing increased food insecurity as a result of COVID-19. The expected result is expanded food access for children and low-income households through providing third, weekend, and/or parent and other adults meals. These funds will compliment and supplement available federal program (NSLP, CACFP and SFSP/SSO) funding for breakfast, lunch, dinner and a snack - filling gaps and addressing a variety of COVID19-related impacts on USDA programs. These funds will increase schools' capacity to provide broader community outreach to all community members while providing nutritious meals to address increased food demands as a result of COVID19.

Applicants for the funds will include: public and non-public schools that participate in a child nutrition program (NSLP,SFSP/SSO or CACFP). Approximately \$5 million will be allocated to districts to address community-based meal service activities or assist to supplement meal service activities for all community members on a local level. The award amounts will vary depending upon the enrollment of the school, the level of free and reduced household, and the geographic area served.

Eligible expenditures could include: food purchases; transportation costs, supplies to distribute meals, including meal service equipment; supplies to follow public health guidelines; supplies to address winter weather service and delivery; and, salaries of staff managing food operation activities.

The MDE Division of Nutrition, Health, and Youth Development will coordinate the allocation process. Interested schools will need to commit to implementing activities to make them a community feeding hub. Applications will be submitted through a survey link that will be open for 2 weeks. Applications received will be screened for eligibility and completeness and funds will be distributed based on formula aid factors. It is anticipated the range of funding will be between \$25,000 - \$75,000 depending on community size.

Denise M. Anderson Digitally signed by Denise M. Anderson
Date: 2020.09.17 17:26:45 -05'00'

Department Head Signature

Date

Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) Categories

Medical Expenses	<input type="checkbox"/> Costs incurred by public hospitals, clinics, and similar facilities
	<input type="checkbox"/> Establishing temporary public medical facilities and other measures to increase treatment capacity, including related construction costs
	<input type="checkbox"/> Testing, including serological testing
	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency medical response expenses, including emergency medical transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> Establishing and operating public telemedicine capabilities for COVID-19 related treatment
Public Health Expenses	<input type="checkbox"/> Communication and enforcement of public health orders related to COVID-19.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition and distribution of medical and protective supplies, including sanitizing products and personal protective equipment, for medical personnel, police officers, social workers, child protection services, and child welfare officers, direct service providers for older adults and individuals with disabilities in community settings, and other public health or safety workers
	<input type="checkbox"/> Disinfection of public areas and other facilities, e.g., nursing homes, in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency
	<input type="checkbox"/> Technical assistance to local authorities or other entities on mitigation of COVID-19-related threats to public health and safety
	<input type="checkbox"/> Public safety measures undertaken in response to COVID-19
	<input type="checkbox"/> Expenses for quarantining individuals
	<input type="checkbox"/> Contact tracing
Payroll Expenses	<input type="checkbox"/> Recovery planning projects or operating a recovery coordination office
	<input type="checkbox"/> Payroll expenses for public safety, public health, health care, human services, and similar employees whose services are substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
Compliance with Public Health Measures	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Food delivery to residents, including, for example, senior citizens and other vulnerable populations, to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Facilitate distance learning, including technological improvements, in connection with school closings to enable compliance with COVID-19 precautions.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Improve telework capabilities for public employees to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions
	<input type="checkbox"/> Providing paid sick and paid family and medical leave to public employees to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions
	<input type="checkbox"/> Maintaining state prisons and county jails, including sanitation and the improvement of social distancing measures, to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions
	<input type="checkbox"/> Care for homeless populations provided to mitigate COVID-19 effects and enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions
Economic Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Provision of grants to small businesses to reimburse the costs of business interruption caused by required closures
	<input type="checkbox"/> Expenditures related to a state, territorial, local, or tribal government payroll support program.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Unemployment insurance costs related to the COVID-19 public health emergency if such costs will not be reimbursed by the federal government pursuant to the CARES Act or otherwise
	<input type="checkbox"/> Facilitation of livestock depopulation incurred by producers due to supply chain disruption
	<input type="checkbox"/> Programs designed to prevent eviction and assist in preventing homelessness due to COVID-19 public health emergency
	<input type="checkbox"/> Employment and training programs for employees that have been furloughed due to the COVID-19 public health emergency
	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency financial assistance to individuals or families directly impacted by loss of income
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Other COVID-19-related expenses reasonably necessary to the function of government that satisfy the Fund's eligibility criteria. If this category is selected, please explain further here:

CRF Fund Request Confirmations

- **Confirm that your CRF funding request meets federal guidance: (1) as a necessary expenditure to respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency, (2) is not accounted in the current biennial budget and (3) funds will be expended by December 30, 2020.**
- **Confirm that your CRF funding request does NOT include expenses that cover:**
 - The state's share of Medicaid costs
 - Damages covered by insurance
 - Payroll or benefits of employees whose work duties are not substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to COVID-19
 - Costs reimbursed under other federal programs or funding sources
 - Reimbursement to donors for donated items or services
 - Workforce bonuses other than hazard pay or overtime
 - Severance pay
 - Government revenue replacement, including provision of assistance to individuals or businesses to meet tax obligations
- **Confirm that your agency will maintain records related to these expenses that will be sufficient to demonstrate that they are in accordance with the requirements of the CARES Act.**
- **Confirm that your agency has the approval of the lead of the selected work group to submit this proposal.**

Coronavirus Relief / Health Care Response / COVID-19 Minnesota Funds Request Form

Please complete this form in accordance with the process instructions.

Agency/Point of Contact: Department of Human Services/Tikki Brown

Title of Request: Food Shelf & Transportation Support

Date: 9/16/2020 **Request Amount:** \$ 6,000,000

Expenditure Time Period: 7/1/2020 to 12/30/2020

Request Funding Source:

- Coronavirus Relief Fund (if selected complete page 2)
- Health Care Response Fund
- COVID-19 Minnesota Fund

Brief Summary of Request: (Summary must be complete on this page with supporting information attached)

Request: This proposal requests an additional \$6 million to provide funds to food shelves to purchase and distribute food and supplies and to support additional demand for the transportation of food. \$6 million has already been designated from the CRF for these purposes. The grant application process, which closed on 9/14/2020, brought in **340 applications totaling \$20,105,405.28**. There is a demonstrated need for increased food support as part of the COVID-19 pandemic response. This request adds funds to the original proposal, as currently approved by the LAC and indicated in the narrative below. This request would make a total of \$12 million available to support these food shelf and transportation support grants.

Rationale: Many Minnesotans have lost their jobs due to the pandemic, resulting in the loss of their ability to purchase adequate food. Minnesotans are increasingly relying on food shelves to obtain the food they need. Minnesota's current biennial budget did not appropriate sufficient funds to cover the increased need for food caused by the pandemic. To comply with social distancing requirements, providing PPE to staff and boxing the food items to be distributed is necessary. The Legislature appropriated \$9 million for food shelves and food banks in March 2020. This request acknowledges the ongoing need and measures necessary to support food shelves and transportation providers in their efforts to provide safe, accessible food to people in need.

Food Shelf Grants: The Department is proposing to provide approximately \$2.880 million in additional grants to food shelves to purchase food, diapers, toilet paper and other supplies. The grants would also be used to safely distribute food by employing social distancing techniques that require additional supplies, such as boxes in which to distribute food and personal protective equipment (PPE) for staff. Weekly food shelf surveys have been conducted during the pandemic. As of May 6, 64% of surveyed food shelves reported being operational, but under strain or operating at a minimal function. Existing Minnesota Food Shelf Program statute includes a formulaic allocation to food shelves based on individuals served, which is being spread thinner because of higher demand. This proposal would supplement the allocation formula to respond to the increased need.

Transportation Grants: The Department's transportation proposal would provide approximately \$2.880 million for food distribution support. The funds could be used for transportation networks, mobile food shelves, meal programs, and support services that transport food to people in need.

This program will be informed by the Minnesota Food Shelf Program, which utilizes a 4% administrative fee, or \$240,000, for the cost of a contract vendor to administer the funds.

Jodi Harpstead
Digitally signed by Jodi Harpstead
Date: 2020.09.17 09:58:11 -05'00'
Department Head Signature

9/17/2020
Date

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